

**Version with marking to show changes made.**

Claim 1. (Amended) A sports racket, comprising;

5 a frame defining a rounded opening of predetermined shape with a vertical axis  
and a horizontal axis;

a handle secured to the frame and lying at least substantially along the vertical  
axis; and strings supported by the frame and suspended within said  
10 opening, said strings being arranged in two parallel, interwoven groups,  
wherein strings of the first group intersect a reference line parallel to the  
horizontal axis at an angle of about 49-60 degrees above said reference  
line and strings of the second group intersect the reference line at an angle  
of about 49-60 degrees below the reference line, the intersection angle is  
15 selected to completely eliminate distortion.

Cancel Claim 7

20 Claim 10. (Amended) A method for diagonal stringing of a sports racket, said  
strings being arranged in two parallel intersecting groups, said method comprising:

creating a diagonal stringing pattern with a nominal intersection angle between  
the strings, including a representation of at least substantially all strings of  
25 the racket to be strung;

applying said stringing pattern to a first racket frame of a construction type;

determining an intersection point for each string representation with the frame;

5 providing string holes in the frame at said intersection points;

stringing the racket through said string holes;

tensioning the strings and measuring distortion of the frame;

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re-stringing the racket to eliminate any measured distortion, said re-stringing

comprising changing the intersection angle between the strings by passing

each string through a hole offset from the hole corresponding to the

nominal intersection angle in said stringing pattern, while maintaining said

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strings in each group in parallel relationship;

re-tensioning the strings; and

measuring distortion and re-stringing so that said strings are arranged in two

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parallel, interwoven groups, wherein strings of the first group intersect a

reference line parallel to the horizontal axis at an angle of about 49-60

degrees above said reference line and strings of the second group intersect

the reference line at an angle of about 49-60 degrees below the reference

line, in order to achieve an angular relationship, whereby frame is not distorted,[as required to eliminate distortion of the frame.]

Claim 15. (Added)

5      A sports racket, comprising:

a frame defining a rounded opening of predetermined shape with a vertical axis and a horizontal axis;

10      a handle secured to the frame and lying at least substantially along the vertical axis; and strings supported by the frame and suspended within said opening, said strings being arranged in two parallel, interwoven groups, wherein strings of the first group intersect a reference line parallel to the horizontal axis at an angle of about 49-60 degrees above said reference  
15      line and strings of the second group intersect the reference line at an angle of about 49-60 degrees below the reference line, with said strings having been restrung and re-tensioned in order to achieve said angular relationships, whereby the frame is not distorted.

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